



COLLIER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS NEWS & VIEWS

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Contact "News & Views":
email electionworker@colliergov.net or call
(239) 252-8052



JENNIFER J. EDWARDS
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SUPERVISOR'S MESSAGE

Three down, one more to go!

Thank you to all the workers and voters who participated in the 2014 Primary Election! Currently, our office is preparing for the fourth and final election, which is scheduled for November 4, 2014.

As a reminder, Early Voting has been extended to 10 ten-hour days. Early Voting will begin on Thursday, October 23 and will end on Saturday, November 1 and polls will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. We would like to encourage all of our election workers who are working on November 4 to vote early at any of our eight Early Voting locations—including our new site located at the North Collier Regional Park!

Also, the voting process has never been easier than voting by mail! If you are working outside of your home precinct on Election Day, our office will automatically send you a ballot to vote by mail. If you are working in your home precinct, or working Early Voting, you may also make the request with our office and enjoy the convenience of voting from home. Visit www.CollierVotes.com or call (239)252-VOTE and make your request by October 29.

Thank you again to all of you who have worked this very busy election cycle. We are so fortunate to have such a dedicated group of workers. Without you, elections would be impossible in Collier County. We hope that you enjoy this edition of News & Views!



I was called out for the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge by our Chief Deputy, Melissa Blazier. When all was said and done, our office raised more than \$500!

NEW STAFF



Alison Bryant, Customer Service Supervisor

Alison Bryant joined our office as the Customer Service Supervisor on September 8. Born in Buffalo, New York, Alison has been a resident in the Naples area for approximately 11 years. She is a graduate of Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts and has 15 years of management experience including quality management and customer service.

In her free time, Alison enjoys spending time with friends and family and is an active volunteer with multiple organizations including the Simmons College Alumnae Association, Collier County Public Schools and Susan G. Komen for the Cure. She also enjoys bicycling and downhill skiing.

Please join us in welcoming Alison to our Elections Team!

VOTER EDUCATION

Outreach to our Youth



CYNDI YOUNG
EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Greetings! Our outreach calendar is filling up as we continue to schedule events in these last remaining weeks prior to the the holiday season.

We hosted our Second Annual High School Voter Registration Challenge in September, and seven high schools participated: Barron-Collier High School, Golden Gate High School, Immokalee High School, Lely High School, Marco Island Academy, Naples High School and Palmetto Ridge High School.

We collected 629 registrations collectively, and Lely High School was the winner of this year's competition. Congratulations!

September 23 was National Voter Registration Day and Diplomats were out in full force registering voters, updating voter information and providing voter education on the upcoming November Election.

Our office will continue to reach out and provide voter education to Collier County even after the election cycle, so if you have an event you would like for us to attend, get in touch with us at (239)252-VOTE.

For a full list of our outreach activities and events, check the community calendar at www.CollierVotes.com.

VOTE BY MAIL UPDATES



The 2014 General Election is right around the corner and the Absentee—or now known as the “Vote by Mail” Department—is continuing to send and receive ballots for the November Election.

We began our mailing to voters who are overseas or in the military on September 20 and more than 40,000 domestic voters were mailed ballots starting September 30. Don't forget, the deadline to request your ballot to be sent by mail is 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 29.

To check the status of your ballot request, visit www.CollierVotes.com!

CANDIDATE QUALIFYING

Fire Districts Catch Ablaze During this Election Cycle



DAVE CARPENTER
QUALIFYING OFFICER

Collier County's independent fire districts have been receiving a great deal of attention this year. We had one merger on the Primary ballot and two more will appear on the General Election ballot.

The districts also have races for Fire Commissioners in addition to the merger issues this November. With all of the proposed changes, now is probably a good time to look back at the history of these districts.

These districts were created as the population grew in the unincorporated parts of Collier County and the residents in these areas desired a greater level of fire protection. The oldest independent fire district in Collier is the Immokalee Fire Control District. This district was voted into existence in 1957. More than 400 voters cast their ballots to create the district and the results were canvassed at the County Seat in Everglades City. In the 1950's the Naples metropolitan area began to expand beyond the city limits and in 1961, the residents in the areas of East and North Naples both voted to create their own fire protection districts. With only 66 citizens casting votes, Marco Island established its own Fire District in 1965.

The 1970's saw growth in Eastern Collier County with the creation of the Big Corkscrew Island Fire District in 1977 and the Golden Gate Fire District first emerged as a dependent county district in 1974 and voted to become an independent district in 1982. All of the district contests were partisan races until 1996 when state law made all independent districts nonpartisan.

As we head toward the November Election, Collier County has five independent fire districts: Big Corkscrew Island, East Naples, Immokalee, Golden Gate and North Naples. In addition, there are two dependent districts which are under the control of the County Commission: Isles of Capri and Ochopee.

Additionally, we have two municipal fire departments one in Naples and the other on Marco Island adding up to a total of nine separate fire fighting entities in Collier County.



JULIO VIGIL
ELECTION SERVICES
COORDINATOR

ELECTION SERVICES

Entering the 4th Quarter

Fall is here, and we are gearing up for our fourth and final election in 2014. In the spirit of Football Season, the Election Services Department describes this election as the “4th Quarter.” Thanks to our

Election Workers we have had three successful quarters (elections) this year and we plan to have an even more successful 2014 General Election!

Polling Place Change

Due to anticipated renovations at Glades Community Center, the following polling location has moved:

From: Pct 135	Glades Community Center 186 Teryl Rd, Naples FL
To: Pct 135	East Naples United Methodist Church 2701 Airport Pulling Rd S, Naples FL

As always, it is an honor and a privilege to serve all and thank you for your hard work during this very busy election cycle!

Respectfully,

William and Julio

TRAINING NEWS

Learning from the Primary

The August 26 Primary was a great election to learn from in preparation for the November 4 General Election. 38,805 ballots were cast, which is approximately 21% of the registered voters.



ROGER MUNZ
TRAINING DIRECTOR

There were several precincts that exceeded the projected turnout including Precincts 190, 193 and 194 on Marco Island; Precincts 223, 255 and 462 near the Vanderbilt Beach and Pelican Bay area; and Precinct 464, which is located near Moorings Park.

We also saw an increase in voters who voted by mail for this election. Both of these components could influence the way we staff our precincts for the General Election.

Ballots in Collier are only one page for this election. We feel this will help with the ballot distribution and hopefully the length of time the voter needs to spend in the voting booth.

We congratulate all of those who worked in the Primary Election. The results from all precincts were received by 7:37pm, which was great! Thanks for all the hard work and dedication each of you brings to making this a great election for the voters of Collier County.

Thanks again!

Roger, Kevin and Trish

ELECTION WORKER REMINDERS



As our office prepares for this election, we would also like to share a few reminders to our Election Workers as we approach the General Election:

- Please make sure your contact information is current with our office including mailing addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. This will help us communicate new happenings in our office and also allow us to send trainings and assignment notices in a timely manner.
- Request your mail ballot by Wednesday, October 29. Almost 23,000 ballots were cast by mail during the Primary Election in August! You can request your ballot at www.CollierVotes.com under the “Vote by Mail” page or call (239)252-VOTE and enjoy the convenience of voting from home.

- Update your signature with our office. Your signature is very important in the Vote by Mail process. Voters are asked to sign the certificate on the back of the return envelope which is then reviewed by our Vote by Mail Department when returned. To update your signature or make any other updates to your voter record, download one of our Voter Registration Applications from our website.

- If you haven't already, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. Our office posts updates and important information through our social media channels, so don't miss out!

SPOTLIGHT: LELY HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations to the Winners of the Second Annual High School Registration Challenge!

The students of Lely High School have a lot to celebrate, as more than 170 students became registered and pre-registered to vote during this year's High School Voter Registration Challenge

In observance of Constitution Week and National Voter Registration Day, the Supervisor of Elections Office challenged students from seven local high schools to register and pre-register to vote, preparing them for future elections!

Our office received 629 registration applications collectively and Lely High School came out on top! Other schools who participated this year were: Baron-Collier High School, Golden Gate High School, Immokalee High School, Marco Island Academy, Naples High School, and Palmetto Ridge High School.

Supervisor of Elections, Jennifer J. Edwards, presented an Achievement Award to members of Lely High School's faculty and staff on October 15, recognizing them for their outstanding achievement during the challenge. Congratulations to all the schools who participated in getting these future voters registered!



Jennifer presented an Achievement Award to staff members of Lely High School for winning this year's High School Registration Challenge. From left: Paul Ruby, Cyndi Young, Dave Miller, Ellen Keegan and Jennifer.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Early Voting: October 23 - November 1, 2014 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Election Day: November 4, 2014 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Visit us on the web: www.CollierVotes.com

